GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6195
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2001
INFLATION RATE AND CPI
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of all the consumer goods and also the rate of inflation are constantly rising after the presentation of the General Budget for the current year; and

(b) if so, the extent of increase being registered in the Consumer Price Index every week and the rate of inflationregistered during the corresponding period of 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

Answer

MINISTAER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) No Sir. In fact annual inflation based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) declined from 7.53%before the presentation of the Union Budget 2001-02 to 4.87% (provisional) at the end of 2000-01. The inflation recorded by the group of 30 essential commodities that include most of the consumer products was 0.7% at the end of March 2001 as compared to 6.6% at the end of February 2001.

(b) The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is not computedon a weekly basis but on a monthly basis with a one-month lag. The CPI based inflation rate for the month of March 2001 is yet to be announced and shall be known only on 30th April. Inflation rate based on the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is listed below.

Annual Inflation based on CPI-IW (%)

	1999-00	2000-01
Apr	8.36	5.54
May	7.71	5.01
Jun	5.26	5.24
Jul	3.16	4.95
Aug	3.15	3.99
Sep	2.14	3.50
Oct	0.92	2.75
Nov	0.00	2.74
Dec	0.47	3.48
Jan	2.62	3.25
Feb	3.61	3.02
Mar	4.83	-